

In 2022 Netball SA introduced the inaugural First Nations Framework, a strategic document designed to assist in actively contributing to increased participation rates and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander netballers in South Australia.

This is the fifth year that Netball SA has created a First Nations Framework that holds the business to account on how we can continue to grow our existing clinics, programs and business strategies. The framework also advises how Netball SA will continue to learn and develop new initiatives to prioritise the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes in the game of netball.

## **OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS**

**Objective:** Place more focus on increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation amongst the grassroots South Australian netball community, including how we can provide opportunity for those in more regional areas of the state

**Action:** Work with Local Champions to identify needs and wants of different regional communities to be able to develop and deliver grassroots netball to First Nations participants and coordinate a schedule of First Nations Netball Clinics.

**Objective:** Continue to grow and develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pre-elite pathway participation through the Rising Sisters Aboriginal Netball Program, Adelaide Thunderbirds Academy, The Hospital Research Foundation Group Premier League, Yakanarna State Team, South Australian 17 & 19 State Teams, Adelaide Thunderbirds Futures & the Adelaide Thunderbirds

**Action:** Coordinate the fifth year of the Rising Sisters Aboriginal Netball Program in conjunction with the Nunga Netball Carnival and third year of the Yakanarna State Team while providing athletes with information and access to other pathway programs and initiatives.

**Objective:** Raise awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athlete development and inclusive club cultures at the elite level through the Suncorp Super Netball First Nations Round, Hospital Research Foundation Group Premier League & AMND competitions

**Action:** Continue to build on celebration of First Nations Rounds for Adelaide Thunderbirds, The Hospital Research Foundation Group Premier League and AMND competitions

**Objective:** Continue to provide Netball SA staff and Adelaide Thunderbirds athletes opportunities to connect and expand their education on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history

**Action:** Ensure staff and athletes are participating in at least one cultural education session in the 2026 calendar year.

**Objective:** Grow and maintain our database of First Nations netballers

**Action:** Building our database of First Nations participants through our First Nations Netball Clinics and SA Nunga Netball Carnival and work on obtaining data around Woolworths NetSetGo Centres in South Australia

**Objective:** Deliver 2026 First Nations Athlete Scholarships

**Action:** Coordinate the First Nations Scholarship Program prior to winter season due to success of this timeframe in 2025

**Objective:** Continue the development and delivery of the Nunga Netball Carnival and look at how else we can support the community at this event.

**Action:** Maintain and foster relationship with SA Nunga Netball to ensure successful delivery of the Nunga Netball Carnival and continue to provide opportunities for coaches and umpires to develop and upskill.

**Objective:** Continue our partnership with SAASTA

**Action:** Maintain and foster relationship with SAASTA to ensure successful delivery of SAASTA programs and initiatives.

**Objective:** Establish ‘Local Champions’ within regional first nations communities to assist with connecting and furthering our reach to deliver grassroots programs and initiatives

**Action:** Create a communication channel with elders, Aunties and Uncles who assist with clubs participating in the Nunga Netball Carnival to develop relationships to allow us to connect and deliver more programs and opportunities.

**Objective:** Create and maintain an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group to assist with consultation

MONTH	ACTION
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open nominations for 2025 First Nations Athlete Participation Scholarship</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yakanarna Coaching, Support Staff and Selectors application and nomination</li> <li>• Close nominations for 2025 First Nations Athlete Participation Scholarship</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection, notification and delivery of First Nations Athlete Participation Scholarships</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Reconciliation Week</li> <li>• National Sorry Day</li> <li>• Adelaide Thunderbirds Dress Cleansing Ceremony</li> <li>• Premier League First Nations Round</li> <li>• Adelaide Thunderbirds Away &amp; Home First Nations Round</li> <li>• AMND First Nations Round</li> <li>• Yakanarna Athlete registrations, trials and team selection</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAIDOC Week</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yakanarna Uniform and Dress Presentation</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Netball Australia First Nations Tournament</li> <li>• Rising Sisters Coach Appointments</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcement of Vanessa Dempsey Award</li> <li>• Announcement of Yakanarna MVP Award</li> <li>• Nunga Netball Carnival</li> <li>• Rising Sisters Camp Selected &amp; Announced</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of 2027 First Nations Framework</li> <li>• Rising Sisters Camp</li> <li>• Netball SA Staff and athlete education session</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>